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Applicant: E. Neil Lewis et al. Examiner: Curtis
Serial No.: 09/828,281 Art Unit 2872
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Title: HYBRID-IMAGING SPECTROMETER

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Commissioner for Patents
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AMENDMENT

Please amend claim 1 in this application as follows. Changes are highlighted in the attached document entitled "Marked-Up Version to Show Changes Made."

1. (Amended) An imaging optical instrument for acquiring images of a sample area, comprising:

a spatial detector including a plurality of aligned detector elements,
a variable filter having wavelength response characteristics that vary in at least one spatial direction, and

an actuator operatively connected between the variable filter and the spatial detector and operative to move the variable filter relative to the spatial detector along the spatial direction in which the wavelength response characteristics vary, while maintaining at least some concurrent optical paths from the sample area to the spatial detector that pass through different portions of the variable filter having different wavelength response characteristics.

11. (Amended) The apparatus of claim 1 further including means for shifting acquired data on a line-by-line basis as it is being acquired.

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